

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Replace the paragraph under FIELD OF THE INVENTION on page 1 as follows:

This invention relates to a drain plug structure for use in opening or closing a drain port of a bath tub ~~tab~~.

Replace the first paragraph under RELATED ART on page 1 as follows:

As the related art, drain plug structure for a bath tub ~~tab~~, it is well known in the art to provide a system in which the supporting member having a plug lid pivotally supported therein, for example, is held in the drain port and an operating part arranged at a position spaced apart from the supporting member is connected to the supporting member through a release wire, for example, Gazette of Japanese Patent Laid-Open No. Hei 9-60073.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 1 and 2 as follows:

Further, in the case of such a drain plug structure as described above, as shown in Fig. 5, a packing 102 arranged at a rear surface 101 of a plug lid 100 is closely contacted

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with a packing close-contact surface 103 of a drain port C to hold a water-tight state, so that there occurs a possibility that the plug lid 100 may protrude substantially from the bottom surface 104 of the bath tub ~~tab~~ and become a hindrance material when a person takes a bath.

Replace the first full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

In view of the foregoing, it is a subject matter of the present invention to restrict a protrusion of the plug lid from the bottom part of the bath tub ~~tab~~ and decrease a possibility in which the plug lid becomes a hindrance and it is an object of the present invention to provide a drain plug structure resolving the subject matter described above.

Replace the fourth full paragraph on page 3 as follows:

The technical means provides a drain plug structure for a bath tub ~~tab~~ using a remote-controlling type drain plug device, wherein this drain plug structure has a feature that at least a circumferential edge of the plug lid is set to be lower than the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ under a drain port closed state (first aspect).

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 3 and 4 as follows:

With such an arrangement as above, at least the circumferential edge of the plug lid is dropped into the drain port in such a way that it may not be contacted with a skin of a person and it becomes possible to position the top point of the plug lid in flush with the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ or less than that in response to an amount of dropping. In this case, this plug does not become a hindrance and a safe and comfortable taking a bath can be assured.

Replace the first full paragraph on page 4 as follows:

The practical structure according to first aspect is a drain plug structure for a bath tub ~~tab~~ using a remote-controlled type drain plug device, for example, wherein the drain port is comprised of a notch part where it is dropped to become lower than the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ under a closed state of the drain port and a packing close-contact surface placed lower than the bottom surface of the notch and having a smaller diameter than a diameter of the plug lid, and the packing is closely contacted with the packing close contact surface under a state in which the plug lid is dropped into the notch part (second aspect).

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Replace the second full paragraph on page 4 as follows:

According to second aspect, the plug lid is dropped into the notch formed in such a way that the circumferential edge of the plug lid becomes lower than the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~, the packing is closely contacted with the packing close-contact surface lower than the bottom surface of the notch.

Replace the third full paragraph on page 6 as follows:

Then, a depth of the notch is set to such a value as one enabling the plug lid to be dropped into it in such a way that its top part may become in flush with the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ or less than that (seventh aspect), thereby the plug lid is installed at the bottom part of the bath tub ~~tab~~ without being protruded.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 as follows:

In this case, the drain plug device has a constitution in which a supporting member 2 provided with a plug lid 1 and arranged at a drain port B and an operating part (not shown) arranged at an upper edge (not shown) of a bath tub ~~tab~~ A are connected by a

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release wire 3 at a rear side of the bath tub ~~tab~~ A, for example. This is a well-known embodiment in which a force is transmitted to the supporting member 2 through the operation release wire 3 at the operating part, a thrust lock mechanism (not shown) stored at either the supporting member 2 or the operating part (not shown) is operated to cause a supporting shaft 21 arranged at the supporting member 2 movable in up and down directions to be moved up and down, and the plug lid 1 supported by the supporting shaft 21 is opened or closed so as to cause the drain port B to be opened or closed.

Replace the third full paragraph on page 11 as follows:

The horizontal surface 41 acting as the bottom part of the notch 4 and the packing close-contact surface 5 are positioned lower than the bottom surface A2 of the bath tub ~~tab~~, thereby the circumferential edge 11 of the plug lid 1 and a packing 6 to be described later are positioned at a lower place than the bottom surface A2 of the bath tub ~~tab~~.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 15 and 16 as follows:

The preferred embodiment described above has been illustrated under a state in which the circumferential edge of the plug lid is embedded into the notch part. However,

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in addition to this form, it is also possible to attain a form in which a depth of the notch is set to such a depth as one having a top point of the plug lid in flush with the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ and the entire plug lid is embedded into the notch (not shown) or another form in which as shown in Fig. 3, a height of the plug lid 1 is made low, the upper surface of the plug lid 1 is made flat or gradual arc (not shown) to cause the entire plug lid 1 to be embedded and the bottom surface A2 of the bath tub ~~tab~~ is made flat or substantially flat.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17 as follows:

According to first aspect of the invention, the plug lid is constructed to have a configuration in which the plug lid is dropped into the drain port under a closed state of the drain port, so that it is also possible to prevent the circumferential edge of the plug lid from being exposed, an operator's hand or fingers from being engaged with the circumferential edge and further the plug lid from being protruded out of the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~ in response to an amount of dropping of the plug lid, resulting in that a person taking a bath can enjoy it in a comfortable manner without having any irregular feeling caused by some hindrances.

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Replace the third full paragraph on page 17 as follows:

Additionally, the circumferential edge of the plug lid is dropped into the notch formed to be lower than the bottom surface of the bath tub ~~tab~~; the packing is closely contacted with the packing close-contact surface lower than the bottom surface of the notch, thereby a load applied to the plug lid (a hydraulic pressure or an artificial pressure provided by a user) can be accepted while being divided by the plug lid and the packing.

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 18 and 19 as follows:

Additionally, according to seventh aspect of the invention, the plug lid can be installed at the bottom part of a bath tub ~~tab~~ without being protruded because a depth of the notch part is set to such a value as one in which the plug lid can be dropped into the bottom part of the bath tub ~~tab~~ while its top part is in flush with or less than the bottom part of the bath tub ~~tab~~.